

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6034

BILL NUMBER: SB 10

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 23, 2012

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Massage Therapists.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Landske

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 1st House

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: *Licensing of Massage Therapists*- The bill provides that an individual must be licensed by the State Board of Massage Therapy (SBOMT) to engage in the practice of massage therapy. (Under current law, massage therapists are certified by the SBOMT but certification is not required for the practice of massage therapy.)

Prohibition- This bill prohibits local units of government from establishing or maintaining licensing requirements for massage therapy.

Licensing Requirements, Scope of Practice, and Conforming Changes- The bill provides that the massage therapy licensing requirements do not apply to a health care provider who is acting within the scope of the health care provider's license, registration, or certificate. The bill makes conforming changes.

Effective Date: July 1, 2012.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Licensing of Massage Therapists*- Switching from certification to licensing would have a negligible administrative and expenditure impact on the Professional Licensing Agency (PLA). The bill would grandfather massage therapists with valid certifications on June 30, 2012. There would be no need for those individuals to reapply for licensing, which would save the PLA administrative time from reprocessing applications of existing certifications. Additionally, there would be expenditure savings if the PLA did not have to produce new licensing pocket cards to replace existing certification cards. [As of September 2011, there were 4,108 certified massage therapists.]

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Prohibition-* Local units of government currently licensing massage therapists would see a reduction in administrative time devoted to processing licenses.

Explanation of Local Revenues: *Prohibition-* For localities currently licensing massage therapists, the bill's prohibition would stop the collection of fees, thereby reducing local revenues.

State Agencies Affected: Professional Licensing Agency.

Local Agencies Affected: Political subdivisions currently licensing message therapists.

Information Sources: Marty Allain, General Counsel, Professional Licensing Agency.

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